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Forty-eighth session
SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION
COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Note by the Chairman

1. The items on the agenda of the General Assembly allocated to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for consideration and report are listed in document A/C.4/48/1. Background information on these items, including references to the related documentation, is set out in the annotated preliminary list of items on the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session (A/48/100 and Add.1*). 1/

2. Under rule 99, paragraph (b), of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, each Main Committee "shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item".

3. In pursuance of the above rule, the Committee may wish, for the purpose of planning, to consider adopting as a provisional guideline the approximate dates set out below for the consideration of the items on its agenda. However, the provisional guideline and the order of the consideration of the items will be revised periodically, as appropriate, according to the availability of related documents. In its consideration of specific items, the Committee will also combine other items on its agenda so as to utilize the allocated conference services to the fullest. As indicated below, the Office of Conference Services has allocated 31 meetings to the Committee and is urging the Committee to make every effort to complete its work within the allotted timetable. Should the Committee wish to change the dates for consideration of items, it would still have to work within the dates and times indicated below. With regard to the availability of conference facilities, the Committee was informed that Conference Services will be able to service only 53 meetings of the General

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* A/48/100/Add.1 to be issued.

Assembly and its Main Committees per week. Consequently, there will be little possibility of servicing informal consultations or working groups, or meetings of regional or other groups of Member States. It is essential that available conference services be utilized to the fullest.

Agenda item	Dates for consideration
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18)	6 October - a.m. 8 October - a.m. 12 October - a.m. 14 October - a.m.
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (item 116)	15 October - a.m.
Activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa (item 117)	
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 118)	
Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter V (section A)] (item 12)	
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 119)	
Effects of atomic radiation (item 83)	18 October - a.m.
Science and peace (item 89)	
Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations (item 90)	
Agenda items 18, 116, 117, 118 and 12 and 119	
Agenda items 18, 116, 117, 118 and 12 and 119	20 October - a.m. 21 October - p.m.

Agenda item	Dates for consideration
Questions relating to information (item 88)	25 October - p.m. 26 October - p.m. 27 October - p.m. 28 October - p.m. 29 October - a.m.
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 85)	1 November - p.m. 2 November - p.m. 3 November - p.m. 4 November - a.m. 5 November - p.m.
International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 84)	8 November - a.m. and p.m. 9 November - p.m. 10 November - p.m. 11 November - p.m.
Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 86)	15 November - p.m. 17 November - p.m. 18 November - p.m. 19 November - p.m.
Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects (item 87)	22 November - a.m. and p.m. 23 November - a.m. and p.m.

4. In the preparation of the above timetable, the Chairman was guided by the following considerations:

(a) In accordance with established procedures and bearing in mind the availability of the documentation, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) may wish to hold one general debate covering agenda items 18, 116, 117, 118 and 12, and 119, and individual debates on agenda items 83 to 90, it being understood that draft resolutions and/or proposals will be considered separately;

(b) In accordance with established procedure, the General Assembly is expected to take up in plenary meetings the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [item 18] as a whole following the completion of its consideration of other decolonization items allocated to it and after the Committee has completed that aspect of its work for the session;

(c) Petitioners will be heard as early as possible during the Committee's consideration of the following related items:

(i) At an appropriate stage, the Committee will hear organizations and individuals having a special interest in the elimination of apartheid and establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa [item 38];